

Europe is on track for 50%+ emissions cuts by 2030

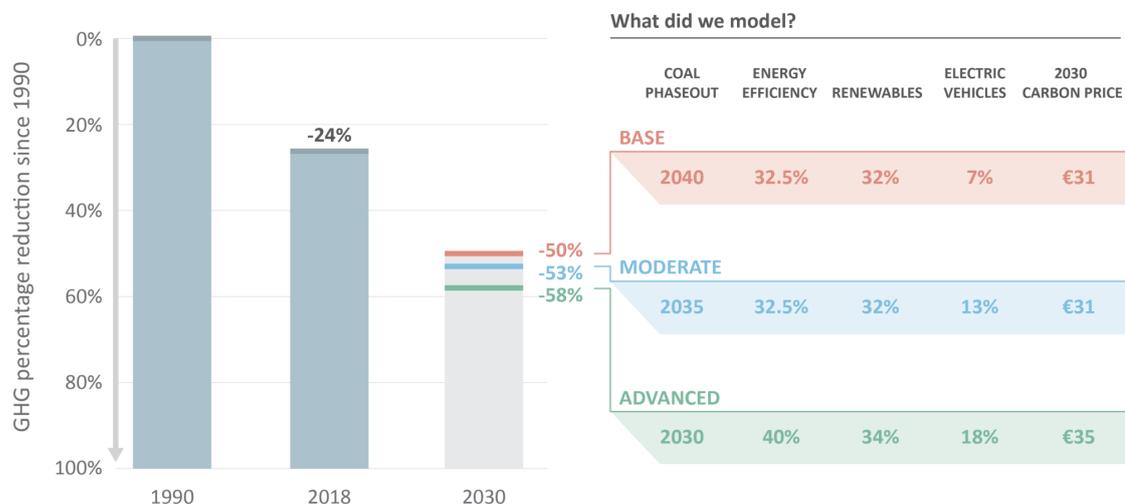
A 2050 net zero target is essential and is made achievable by a
higher 2030 target

Dear Heads of State,

There is not a single issue of greater consequence on the geopolitical scene and our wellbeing in Europe and beyond, than climate change. The United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Antonio Gueterres, has addressed a letter to you, European Heads of States in which he emphasized the urgency for higher commitments, in line with the Paris Agreement, to be made. The world should not be denied European leadership on this matter. A commitment to a net-zero European Union by 2050 would put the EU in the leading role. Furthermore, an increase in the 2030 pre-Paris target of the EU is also paramount to ensuring this longer-term goal can be met.

On behalf of Sandbag, a well-renowned evidence focused climate policy think tank, I am writing to you ahead of the upcoming European Council, scheduled to take place on June 20th and 21st, with a clear message:

The EU already has increased its 2030 level of ambition, through the revisions it carried out since the Paris Agreement. Our analysis, carried out with *Cambridge Econometrics* shows that [the new Business as Usual scenario will see emissions reductions of at least -50% GHG by 2030](#), against 1990 levels. As such, **a target of 55% reductions is the minimum that can be considered as ambitious.**



The young generation of Europeans have been making their way to the streets asking you, European leaders to step up the level of climate ambition in Europe. Two resolutions from the European Parliament, one from October 2018 and one from March 2019 have also called for the level of ambition to be increased to - 55% reductions by 2030. For the EU Council to reflect the priority of its citizens, it must take into account the views of the young generation and of the democratic institution of the European Parliament.

Heads of European states met last month in Sibiu, Romania, to discuss the Future of Europe. The outcome of the Summit was a declaration which did not

even refer to climate change once, becoming a wasted opportunity to reaffirm European leadership in this field. Sandbag organised a youth climate summit in Sibiu on the 8th of May, which resulted in [this declaration](#). With this in mind, we urge you to commit the European Union to a net-zero by 2050 trajectory as well as to an appropriate and ambitious level of emission reductions by 2030.

Best wishes for a climate neutral Paris compatible future,

Suzana Carp

EU Engagement Lead

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